AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10-12, 15-28, cancel claims 9, 13, and 14, and add new claims 29-32. Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended:

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a scanner upper portion having an upper surface;

a light-emitting element ~~disposed on said scanner~~ proximate to the upper surface;

a reflective plate disposed between said upper surface and said light-emitting element, said reflective plate being ~~adapted~~ configured to reflect light emitted from said light-emitting element onto a first surface; ~~and~~

an aperture formed ~~on~~ at a first predetermined position on said reflective plate ~~and positioned between the upper surface and the light-emitting element~~ to decrease said reflected light on a portion of said first surface; and

a spreading plate positioned between the light-emitting element and the first surface, wherein the spreading plate includes a plurality of perforations.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the light-emitting element ~~comprises~~ includes a lamp.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the reflective plate ~~substantially comprises~~ has ~~an~~ generally arced~~arc~~ shape.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the reflective plate ~~substantially comprises~~ includes a "$\prod$" shape.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, wherein the aperture ~~comprises a central part, a first end and a second end~~includes a central portion

and first and second end portions extending from the central portion, wherein the central portion is wider than the first and second end portions.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1~~,~~ wherein ~~said~~ the aperture ~~substantially comprises~~ includes ~~an~~ generally elongated shape.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1~~, further comprising: a~~ wherein the spreading plate ~~disposed between said light emitting element and said reflective plate~~includes a first group of perforations having a first density and a a second group of perforations having a second density less than the first density.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim ~~9~~8~~,~~ wherein ~~said~~ the first group of perforations is located at an end portion of the spreading plate and the second group of perforations is located at a central portion of the spreading plate~~is adapted to distribute at least a portion of the light emitted by said light emitting element~~.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1, further comprising~~:~~ a protective plate positioned between the light emitting element and the first surface~~disposed on said scanner upper surface~~ for protecting ~~said apparatus~~the light-emitting element.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 1~~,~~ wherein ~~said~~ the light emitting element ~~comprises~~ includes ~~a~~an LED array.

13-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A scanner component, comprising:

a reflective plate ~~adapted for coupling to a scanner, wherein the plate includes~~ including at least one aperture formed at a central ~~part~~ portion of the ~~and at least one aperture formed on a first predetermined position thereon which is proximate to the central part of said~~ reflective plate;

a light-emitting element proximate to the reflective plate; ~~and~~

a scanning platform, wherein the light-emitting element is between the reflective plate and the scanning platform; and

a spreading plate positioned between the light-emitting element and the scanning platform, wherein the spreading plate includes a plurality of perforations.

16. (Currently Amended) The scanner component of claim 15~~,~~ wherein the reflective plate is ~~further adapted to couple~~ configured to be attached to an upper portion of ~~said~~ a scanner.

17. (Currently Amended) The scanner component of claim 15~~,~~ wherein ~~said~~ the aperture ~~is adapted to~~ does not reflect ~~the~~ light produced by ~~a~~ the light-emitting element ~~source of said scanner~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The scanner component of claim 15~~,~~ wherein the reflective plate ~~is formed to have~~ includes a ~~substantially arc~~ generally arced shape.

19. (Currently Amended) The scanner component of claim 15~~, further comprising at least two apertures formed on the plate~~wherein the aperture is a first aperture, and wherein the scanner component further comprises a second aperture formed in the reflective plate spaced apart from the first aperture.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a scanner upper portion having an upper surface opposite a lower surface;

a light source ~~disposed on~~within the scanner upper portion and ~~adapted~~ configured to produce light; ~~and~~

a reflective plate ~~disposed on~~ between the light source and the upper surface, wherein the reflective plate has ~~and having one or more apertures formed thereon, said reflective plate being adapted~~ at least one aperture formed therein and is configured to reflect at least a portion of the produced light from portions of the reflective plate not including ~~said one or more~~ the at least one apertures ~~formed thereon, wherein said one or more apertures formed on said reflective plate are positioned between the upper surface and the light source~~; and

a spreading plate between the light source and the lower surface, wherein the spreading plate includes a plurality of perforations.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20~~, and further comprising a~~ wherein the spreading plate ~~disposed on the upper portion adapted~~ is configured to distribute at least a portion of the produced light.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20~~,~~ wherein the reflective plate is ~~formed to have~~ has a ~~substantially arc~~ generally arced shape.

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20~~,~~ wherein the reflective plate is ~~formed to have a substantially~~ generally U-shaped.

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20~~, and further comprising two apertures formed on the reflective plate~~wherein the at least one aperture is a first aperture, and wherein the reflective plate further includes a second aperture spaced apart from the first aperture.

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 20~~,~~ wherein ~~at least a portion of the one or more apertures comprise a first end, a center portion and a second end,~~ the at least one aperture includes a center portion and first and second end portions extending from the center portion, wherein the center portion ~~of the aperture~~ is wider than one of the first and second end portions.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~as claimed in~~of claim ~~1~~20~~,~~ wherein ~~said upper surface is in a direction opposite that of said first surface from the light-emitting element~~the plurality of perforations of the spreading plate includes a first group of perforations having a first density and a second group of perforations having a second density less than the first density.

27. (Currently Amended) A scanner component, comprising:

a ~~generally~~ reflective plate ~~adapted for coupling to a scanner, wherein the plate includes~~ including a non-reflective central ~~part~~ portion~~and a generally non-reflective portion at a first predetermined position which is proximate to the central part of said reflective plate~~;

a light-emitting element proximate to the reflective plate;~~ and~~

a scanning platform proximate to the light-emitting element, wherein the light-emitting element is between the reflective plate and the scanning platform; and

a light balancing member positioned between the light-emitting element and the scanning platform, wherein the light balancing member includes a plurality of perforations.

28. (Currently Amended) The scanner component ~~as claimed in~~ of claim 27~~,~~ wherein the ~~generally~~ non-reflective central portion ~~comprises~~ includes an aperture in the central portion portion of the reflective plate.

29. (New) The scanner component of claim 27 wherein the plurality of perforations in the light balancing member includes a first group of perforartions that are less densely distributed than a second group of perforations.

30. (New) The scanner component of claim 15 wherein the plurality of perforations in the spreading plate includes a first group of perforartions that are less densely distributed than a second group of perforations.

31. (New) A scanner, comprising:

a scanner upper portion having a first surface and a second surface;

means for emitting light positioned within the scanner upper portion;

means for reflecting light toward the second surface of the scanner upper portion, wherein the means for reflecting lights is positioned between the means for emitting light and the first surface of the scanner upper portion;

means for distributing light toward the second surface of the scanner upper portion, wherein the means for distributing light is positioned between the means for emitting light and the second surface of the scanner upper portion, and wherein the means for distributing light includes a plurality of openings.

32. (New) The scanner of claim 31 wherein the plurality of openings in the means for distributing light includes a first group of openings having a first density and a second group of openings having a second density greater than the first density.